

Communication Skills In English Among Telugu Medium Students In Secondary Schools Of Visakhapatnam District

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Abstract

The present study has been designed to investigate the Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium students in the Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam District. Various Indian and foreign studies were reviewed. Descriptive Survey method has been used in this study. The study was conducted over a sample of 200 (boys and girls) secondary school students in Visakhapatnam district using stratified random sampling method. Questionnaire was constructed for the secondary school students to find out the opinions of students on Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium students in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam District. The data were analyzed using various statistical methods like mean, SD, t-test and ANOVA by SPSS package. The results revealed that, there is a significant difference between the perceptions of students according to their gender, class, school management, locality and parental qualification towards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium students in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam District. The results are discussed in light of previous research studied; suggestions and Recommendations for further research were also suggested.

Key Words: communication skills, dialects, English, knowledge, language, linguistic, medium, spoken.

Introduction:

The preexistent linguistic barrier helped the language of English to rule the roost. India is a country with more than 25 dominant languages and 6000 dialects. There are more than 16 major languages spoken and used in this country. English appears as a common platform for many Indians when in a cross-linguistic situation. We must also attribute the hypocrisy of many Indians for the development of English language in our country. We take pride in claiming that we can speak, write or use this language comfortably fluently. English is the official language in government and private offices. This is also the language of instruction in all the Universities and colleges across the country. The scenario is such that one needs to hone the skills of English to obtain a job. Mere knowledge of subjects is no more the only criteria to secure a job in today's date. One needs to be master in English communication skills to be a professional. English has evolved as language of status. This reflects status symbol. If one is able to communicate in English they drive respect for themselves. Before looking onto us with respect if we can speak in English. A person's knowledge is judged in terms of English. English Communication has become essential to get a job, move up in the career and earn a lot of money. Not only in India but also in the world market English communication is highly required.

Today we live in a global village. Globalization has been adopted by almost all the developed and developing countries. In this globalized era English language is an important tool in the professional's hand. In addition to the evolution of the language we must also understand the economic value of the language. In most developed countries like US, Canada, England, Australia and other major countries English is the language used for speaking and official correspondence. As these countries control most of the world economy we have to learn this language to be a part of the economy. English is no more a language but a bread winner in today's date. India is a developing country. We need to produce as many professionals as required. And the professionals need to be well versed in the language. The term communication has been defined at various levels. Communication is a dynamic interactive process that involves the effective transmission of facts, ideas, thoughts, feelings, and values. It is not passive and does not just happen; we actively and consciously engage in communication in order to develop the information and understanding required for effective group functioning. It is

dynamic because it involves a variety of forces and activities interacting over a period of time. The word 'process' suggests that communication exists as a flow through a sequence or series of steps. The term 'process' also indicates a condition of flux and change. The relationships of people engaged in communication continuously grow and develop.

Communication begins with the sender sending out message cues, which are perceived by the receiver who assigns meaning to them and responds to them as per the need. Communication can be complete unless the message sent by the sender is properly decoded at the receiver's end and comprehended. Moreover, communication can be considered effective only when the receiver's response is matching with the meaning the sender wanted to convey. It is the process of expressing one's ideas, thoughts, feelings, expressions, emotions, language, knowledge etc. The process may involve Transaction, exchange, and sharing. Communication is the base of human existence. Starting from the child's cry which is the first communication by any human being. Communication is present in Home. It spreads out to society (the people with whom we live and share our experiences on a daily basis). It is also instrumental in framing our culture. Culture in a developed state of being becomes an integral part of religion. Communication is also responsible in administration and control in the country. Every aspect related to human being is dependent on communication. Either it be politics, economics, sociology or technical things like evolution of Science and development & use of technology. Particularly, in the present context communication assumes a lot of importance. We live in the world of information technology. Communication is the nerve centre of information technology and I.T. enabled services.

The process of evolution from pre-historic age to modern age, every time human being has given proof of existence through communication. From the beginning of civilization human being has understood the need and importance of communication. Now let's understand the nuances of communication. Listening and reading skills comparatively passive and require less exertion on the part of the learner. These skills are called receptive skills because while listening or reading the person is at the receiving end of the communication channel. Speaking and writing are active skills. Here the person being at the transmitting end of the channel has to take

initiative. These two skills are called productive skills.

Need and Importance of the study

Today English has developed fast and transformed itself to be recognized as an international language. It is given the status of official language of Indian Union. So far we have discussed the status of English in India. From this it is clear that learning of English is essential in the present day. The students who come from English medium background may not face any problem in their communication in English language. But the students who come from Telugu medium background, when they come to Post Graduate level, they are not able to communicate in English properly. They fail in facing the interviews also. They feel the inferiority complex. Nowadays many companies are conducting campus interviews but Telugu Medium students are not succeeding in getting jobs. Many students even don't know how to write letters, resumes etc. So in this situation I feel it necessary to undertake a study to find out the problems of Telugu medium students in one of the communicative skills-Oral communication skill among students. The study focuses exclusively on the performance of communication skills in English among Telugu medium students in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam District.

Statement of the Problem:

The researcher intended to know the Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium students in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam district. The Researcher planned to compare certain Socio-economical, Gender and Geographical problems of the English learners.

Objective of the study

To study the level of communication skills in English among Telugu medium students in Secondary schools of Visakhapatnam district.

To study the significant difference between the perception of boy and girl students towards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium students in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam district.

To study the significant difference among the perception of students based on their class towards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium students in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam district.

To study the significant difference between the perception of Government and Private school students towards

Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium students in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam district.

To study the significant difference between the perception of students based on their parental qualification towards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium students in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam district.

To study the significant difference between the perception of rural and urban area students towards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium students in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam district.

Hypothesis of the present study

There will be no significant difference between the perception of boy and girl students towards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium students in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam district.

There will be no significant difference among the perception of students based on their class towards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium students in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam district.

There will be no significant difference between the perception of Government and Private school students towards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium students in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam district.

There will be no significant difference between the perception of students based on their parental qualification towards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium students in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam district. There will be no significant difference between the perception of rural and urban area students towards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium students in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam district.

Review of Related Literature:

Malika Abdikarimova et al., (2021) studied on “Developing Students Verbal Communication Skills and Speech Etiquette in English Language Teaching”. This study is investigating verbal communication research in teaching the English language, its importance, and necessity in daily human life. The study shows how the teacher should help students to improve and develop their verbal communication skills. For this point, there are given some useful and effective techniques with methods in teaching the English language, which we have to use for developing students’ verbal communication skills and speech etiquette.

Meeta Kumawat (2020) studied on “Problems and Solution of Communication Skills through English in Higher Studies In India”. Communication is an essential part of a person’s life. God has gifted the human being with language which helps him to communicate with each other. The main reason of this is that in Indian schools and college emphasis is given only on conceptual content while stylish content is very important for it but in Indian schools it is neglected.

Mohamad Rafi, M. (2019) studied on “A study on English Communication Skills of Higher Secondary Students In Rajandra Nagar Mandal Of Ranga Reddy District”. A communication skill is one of the important components of progress of an individual as well as the nation in many aspects. Communication skills is one of the vital factor should be considered because new technology simplifies the workload of the human being. Random sampling technique has been used in the selection of the sample of as many as 300 higher secondary school students and the English communication skills assessment scale constructed and validated by Dr. S. Mohamad Rafi and Augustine Thomas(2013) has been distributed to them and the responses were collected and computed according to the objectives framed. The findings of the study revealed that the higher secondary school student shows unfavourable English communication skills and the same trend has been seen in respect of the sub-samples, too.

Design of the Study

The researcher followed the survey method of the descriptive research. For this investigation the questionnaire had been considered as a suitable tool for the collection of data.

Research Tool:

The questionnaire was constructed and administered to find out the Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium students in Secondary Schools. The questionnaire consists of 30 statements on Communication skills in English. 30 questions are given with four multiple choices, which show different kinds of sentence constructions.

Sample:

According to the research, the survey will be conducted 200 students which are located in Visakhapatnam district of Andhra Pradesh.

Statistical Techniques Used

The investigation has been carried out by the descriptive statistical analysis, such as calculating measures of central tendency like Mean and calculating measures of dispersion like Standard Deviation. For testing the null hypothesis, the 't'-test and Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) have been used by the investigator with the help of Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS).

Table- 1: overall perceptions of students towards Communication Skills in English among IXclass Students of Telugu medium in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam District.

N	Min.Score	Max. Score	Mean	Mean Percent	Std. Dev.
200	1	30	21.34	71.13	4.28

From the above table -1 observed that, students expressed high perceptions towards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium in Secondary School of Visakhapatnam District. The mean and mean percentages are 21.34 which is 71.13% of their total score respectively.

Table -2: Significant difference between boy and girl students perceptions towards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium Students in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam District.

Gender	N	Mean	Std. Dev.	t-value	p-value
Boy	100	19.32	4.16	3.02**	0.00
Girl	100	22.18	3.98		

*Significant at 0.05 level

Table -2 observed that, the mean perception scores of girl category students towards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium Students (22.18) is higher than that of male category students (19.32). The 't'-value is found to be 3.02 and the p-value is 0.00, which is significant at 0.01 level. This shows that there is a significant difference between the perceptions of boy and girl Students towards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium Students in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam District and female category students perceived high than that of male category students.

Table -3 shows that the ANOVA results on students perceptions towards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium Students based on their class, between groups and within groups, the df values are 2 and 197 respectively and sum of squares are 963.54 and 2624.18 and mean squares are 323.83 and 13.33 respectively. The F-value is found to be 5.18 and the p-values is 0.00, which is significant at 0.01 level. This shows that there is a significant difference among the students perceptions based on their class towards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium Students in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam District and 8th Class students perceived high than that of 9th and 10th Class students.

Table- 3: Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) – Perceptions of students based on their class towards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium Students in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam District.

Class	N	Mean	Groups	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F-value	p-value
8 th Class	75	23.13	Between Groups	963.54	2	323.83	5.18**	0.00
9 th Class	75	19.07	Within Groups	2624.18	197	13.33		
10 th Class	50	20.52	Total	3527.72	199			

**Significant at 0.01 level

Table -4: Significant difference between the perceptions of Government and Private school students perceptions towards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium Students in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam District.

Management	N	Mean	Std. Dev.	t-value	p-value
Government	100	19.32	3.92	4.24**	0.00
Private	100	22.40	4.02		

**Significant at 0.01 level

Table -4 observed that, the mean perception scores of Private school students towards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium Students (22.40) is higher than that of Government students (19.32). The 't'–value is found to be 4.24 and the p-value is 0.00, which is significant at 0.01 level. This

shows that there is a significant difference between Government and Private school students perceptions towards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium Students in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam District and Private school students perceived high than that of Government school students.

Table -5: Significant difference between Illiterate and literate parents of students perceptionstowards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium Students in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam District

Parental Qualification	N	Mean	Std. Dev.	t-value	p-value
Illiterate	76	19.02	3.71	2.26*	0.04
Literate	124	22.85	4.54		

NS : Not Significant

Table -5 observed that, the mean perception scores of Literate parents of students towards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium Students (22.85) is higher than that of illiterate parents of students (19.02). The 't'-value is found to be 2.26 and the p-value is 0.04, which is significant at 0.05 level. This shows that there is a significant difference between Illiterate and literate parents of students perceptions towards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium Students in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam District and Literate parents of students perceived high than that of the illiterate parents of students.

Table -6: Significant difference between Rural and Urban area students perceptions towardsCommunication Skills in English among Telugu medium Students in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam District.

Locality	N	Mean	Std. Dev.	t-value	p-value
Rural	100	18.95	4.21	3.98**	0.00
Urban	100	22.09	3.79		

**Significant at 0.01 level

Table -6 observed that, the mean perception scores of Urban

area students towards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium Students (22.09) is higher than that of rural area students (18.95). The 't'-value is found to be 3.98 and the p-value is 0.00, which is significant at 0.01 level. This shows that there is a significant difference between Urban and rural area students perceptions towards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium Students in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam District and Urban area students perceived high than that of rural area students.

Findings of the study:

Students expressed high perceptions towards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium Students in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam District.

There is a significant difference between boy and girl students perceptions towards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium Students in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam District.

There is a significant difference among the perceptions of students based on their class towards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium Students in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam District.

There is a significant difference between Government and Private school students perceptions towards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium Students in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam District.

There is no significant difference between Illiterate and literate parents of students perceptions towards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium Students in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam District.

There is a significant difference between Rural and Urban area students perceptions towards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium Students in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam District.

Conclusion

Students expressed high perceptions towards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium Students in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam District. According to their Gender, female students expressed high perceptions than that of male students. According to their class, 8th class students perceived high than that of 9th and 10th Class students. According to their School Management, Private school students expressed high perceptions than that of Government school students. According to their Locality, Urban area students expressed high

perceptions than that of Rural area students. According to their parental qualification, Literate parents of students expressed high than that of Illiterate parents of students towards Communication Skills in English among Telugu medium Students in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam District.

Recommendations:

The teachers, parents and counselors should maintain the present condition and provide the up to date information to the students that leads them better citizen of India and should be controlled in English communication skills process.

The syllabi, on the other hand, should include advanced skills like appreciation of literature, creative and critical writing, or applied skills like English communication, or project report writing etc. instead of still having units on Grammar and vocabulary.

Students should be made to learn all grammar and vocabulary-building exercises up to secondary or higher secondary stages so that their proficiency in the language as well as their performances in the Board examinations and subsequently in the University examination would improve.

English should be taught as a skill subject with more emphasis on practical methods and generous use of English language labs and A/V aids.

Parents must be counseled and involved in the language learning activity to ensure that students get enough encouragement at home.

Suggestions for further Research:

There is a need to study on the problems of Telugu medium students in communication skills at secondary and Higher secondary school level.

There is a need to study on the problems of Telugu medium students in communication skill at secondary level in some other districts of Andhra Pradesh.

Similar study may be extended to a large sample.

There is a need to make an in-depth study on each language skill in particular.

There is a need to study on the problems of Telugu medium background students in speaking, reading and listening.

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